

March 7, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Matthew Grossman and I am a pediatrician on the faculty at Yale. I am pleased to see that the senate will be considering SB 284 this week and would like to urge you to pass this bill. As an inpatient pediatrician I recently took care of young teenager who had recently immigrated from Guatemala with his mother to join the rest of their family in Connecticut. This young man became ill soon after arriving and was admitted to Yale New Haven Children's Hospital. Though he was quite ill initially, he was stabilized, but was diagnosed with severe kidney failure. He was going to require long-term dialysis, three times per week and was likely a candidate for a kidney transplant. He was getting that treatment in the hospital, but problems arose when it was time to send him home, where he would need to continue dialysis three times a week. Because he was in Connecticut, he was not eligible for health care coverage and would not be able to get dialysis. If he had moved to Massachusetts or New York, this wouldn't have been an issue. He would have been eligible for coverage, would have gone home, and seamlessly continued his outpatient dialysis treatment. Since sending him home without dialysis was the equivalence of a death sentence, he stayed in the hospital unnecessarily for many months as we tried to find a solution for him and his family. Eventually, we helped them move to New York where he could get the lifesaving health care that he needed. Care that he was denied in Connecticut.

Health care is a basic human right, something our neighboring states already recognize. I am heartened that the Connecticut legislation is considering acknowledging the cruelty that currently exists in the law so that what happened to my patient, does not happen again. I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Grossman', is positioned above the typed name and title.

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